

# Women of Virginia Commemorative Commission

March 28, 2016 Meeting Notes

## **I. Call to Order**

- 10:33 AM

## **II. Welcome and Introductions**

- There is no quorum for this meeting because of existence of non-voting members
- Sen. Whipple: we should adjust commission rules to add some provision for either electric voting or sending paper around for signatures
- Sen. Whipple: hope to have a meeting in June, September, and December; we need to give much more notice in the future to plan for meetings

## **III. Nominations for the Wall of Honor**

- 245 nominations so far
- Since we are a while away from actually having a glass wall to etch names onto, we should discuss extending the deadline/keeping nominations open-ended for now
- Take March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline off the website
- Also tweet/post on Facebook about nominations now being open

## **IV. Fundraising Report**

- Article in RTD about Maggie Walker student and her creation of the Women's Commission Facebook page
  - As a result: Letter to Editor in RTD, and checks that have come in (total of \$2,288 from seven individuals)
  - Follow up with these bigger donors to see if they could give more and/or have reception to spread information to others
- Warren Thompson offered restaurants to use for fundraising
- S. Schaar: Sen. McDougle is involved with the Hanover County Rotary Club and could explore that as an avenue for donations
- A few events hosted
  - Info meeting during session in GAB (\$1,000 from woman involved with League of Women Voters who can introduce us to more potential donors)
  - Meeting with local DAR meeting (\$100 from the local chapter, but they will speak on it at next statewide meeting which could lead to more donations)
  - KIWANIS Club meeting (\$1,000)
- Haven't been so successful with bigger donations, so it's important to press the concept of gifts being welcome of all sizes
- Donation cards passed out
  - N. Rodrigues has been handing them out extensively
  - Dr. Treadway—annual Women in History event on Thursday; will hand cards out then

- Still pursuing groups to “adopt” women featured in monument (Sen. Whipple: “we need to step up our game”)
- VA Farmers Bureau has been helpful
- More than half of the Capitol Foundation board members have prospects in mind for donations (and most of those are specifically for Women’s Monument)
- Crowd sourcing—good to use at the end of the fundraising process to get a last surge of donations
- Issue raised by Attorney General’s office: no easy way to donate on the website
  - A. Lynch: easiest way to donate is to donate to Capitol Foundation and earmark donation for the Women’s Monument
- N. Rodrigues: we need to have a meeting of the minds at the next commission meeting with the Monument Group
- A. Lynch: yes, we should focus on having every woman donate (“\$1 for every woman in VA”), but it’s also important to encourage bigger gifts
- S. Schaar is drafting a letter to family/friends to ask for support
- Need to regroup on “friends of” project and follow through
  - Maybe plan regional event for people who have already said they would be in that group
- Need to resurrect Capitol event—focus on it now (nice time to come to the Capitol)
  - Looking at the end of May
- There will be a 2019 commemoration
  - The year 1619
    - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the House of Burgesses
    - 1<sup>st</sup> importation of slaves
    - 1<sup>st</sup> time women were included
  - Impact of Women Committee
    - Dr. Treadway, Sen. Whipple, and Lisa Hicks-Thomas are all members
    - Committee has agreed to make the women’s monument their legacy project for 2019
  - This means that by the summer of next year, we need to have money in hand
- Important to follow all leads; do all the things you’ve thought of doing but haven’t
- Each member of the commission should send a friends/family letter asking for support
- S. Schaar: Indian Commission has gotten \$100,000 total from the state budget; we’ve gotten nothing—it may be time to talk to Joint Rules
- S. Schaar: we should offer the city the chance to sponsor *our* Maggie Walker instead of theirs

## V. Contract Update

- Contract negotiations continue

- There is the option of an elaborate photo shoot done in New York; sculptor would be in charge—will give us/potential donors a better way to envision what the monument will look like

#### **VI. Delegation of Certain Authorities to the Executive Committee**

- As contracts come in, the entire commission wouldn't have to convene to approve them
- Adopted procedure:
  - All members of the commission are invited to Executive Committee meetings, whether they are a part of the Executive Committee or not
  - Recorded votes
  - Minutes will be posted
  - At the next full commission meeting, the Executive Committee will share what was discussed
- Next meeting: adopt this resolution
- Two vacancies on the Executive Committee—Sen. Whipple suggests the commission agrees to fill the seats with:
  - Secretary Rodrigues
  - Krysta Jones

#### **VII. Member Reports/Comments**

- Women's History Month event at the Library of Virginia
  - Thursday, March 31
  - Honoring eight women
  - Information about the monument will be shared (including the website, how to donate, how to nominate)
- N. Rodrigues: wants to emphasize the need to meet with the Capitol Foundation and the Monument Group at the next meeting
- Krysta Jones: wrote blog article that was well received
- Dr. Treadway: had an article in Capitol Connections

#### **VIII. Public Comment**

#### **IX. Adjournment**

- 11:26 AM